



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 2714**  
Makoto KOMATSU et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2003\_0950A  
Serial No. 10/617,025 : Group Art Unit 1796  
Filed July 11, 2003 : Examiner Olga Asinovsky  
SOLID REAGENTS : **Mail Stop: Amendment**

---

**STATEMENT CONCERNING COMMON OWNERSHIP**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER  
TO CHARGE ANY  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER  
ACCOUNT NO. 100-000000

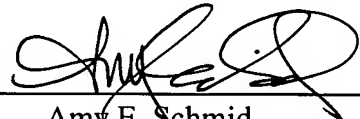
Sir:

Application 10/617,025 and US Patent 6,844,371 were, at the time the invention of Application 10/617,025 was made, owned by Ebara Corporation.

As indicated in MPEP 706.02(1)(2)(II), this statement alone is sufficient evidence to disqualify US Patent 6,844,371 from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) against the claims of Application 10/617,025.

Respectfully submitted,

Makoto KOMATSU et al.

By:   
Amy E. Schmid  
Registration No. 55,965  
Attorney for Applicants

AES/nrj  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
November 20, 2007